

Client Update

- Spring 2016 Edition -



Meet the Team

Have you met our new Client Services Team yet?

Our client services team has undergone a few changes. We recently said goodbye to our Case Management Officer Nicolas Velez and have been joined by two new Case Management Officers (CMOs). Hannah Smith and Lindell De Marte will join Maryanne Dover in providing information, support and case management services to our clients around Queensland. Each of our CMOs will specialise in a particular region in order to build connections and relationships in each area. Some of the team are part time but if you need assistance on a day when your CMO is not available, please call the office and you will be connected with one of our other Case Management Officers.

Case Management Officer: Maryanne Dover

Brisbane North, Moreton, Sunshine Coast, Gympie, North & Far North Queensland

Mon-Fri e: maryanned@mdqld.org.au



Maryanne has been working in the disability sector for 10 years and has experience in supporting and enabling people with disability. She has an Associate degree in Social Science majoring in Counselling and a Cert IV in Mental Health. Maryanne is particularly interested in outreach and creating meaningful connections for clients within their own communities.

"I am passionate about advocacy and ensuring clients have the best possible quality of life."

Case Management Officer: Hannah Smith

Brisbane South, Logan, Redlands, Gold Coast & Central Qld (excl. Rocky/Gladstone)

Tue-Fri e: hannahs@mdqld.org.au

Hannah has a number of years of experience in the disability sector working to support people and assist the capacity building of people with disabilities. She has a Bachelor of Human Services.

"I am excited to be a part of creating great connections, developing people's strengths, and building foundations for the lives people aspire to."



Case Management Officer: Lindell De Marte

Brisbane West, Ipswich, Toowoomba, South West Queensland, Rockhampton & Gladstone

Mon-Wed e: lindell@mdqlq.org.au



Lindell De Marte has a Bachelor of Social Work and has spent the last 5 years working with people who are unpaid carers of people with a disability or illness. She enjoys working with families to help them achieve short and long term goals.

"I am looking forward to the challenge of helping people overcome obstacles in order to reach their potential."



NDIS News

The NDIS has already begun in Townsville and will launch soon in Mackay and Toowoomba


The NDIS is here! The roll-out has begun in Townsville and will continue west to Mount Isa from 1st October. Mackay and Whitsunday will enter the NDIS on 1st November, followed by Toowoomba and south western districts from the 1st January 2017.

The MDQ client services team are committed to helping our clients transition to the NDIS. We've had several NDIS workshops in Townsville, Mackay and Toowoomba and will continue to host workshops in areas as they begin the process of transitioning. The NDIS is very different from the current system and early indications are looking promising for a brighter future. The NDIS will give you much more control over the supports that you need, and for many, it will be the first time that supports have been available at all.

If you need some help to get ready for your NDIS plan, our Case Management Officers are here to help. If you would like to continue to receive services from Muscular Dystrophy Queensland, you may wish to include MDQ in your NDIS plan to provide you with Support Connection or Support Coordination - similar to the Case Management services that we currently provide.

If you would like the flexibility of choosing your own services providers under the NDIS but are a little daunted by the idea of completely self-managing your funding, MDQ can also be your Plan Management Provider under the NDIS as a Financial Intermediary or a Financial and Services Intermediary. Similar to Your Life Your Choice Coordination, MDQ can assist with processing and paying invoices, reporting to the NDIA and helping to develop service agreements with your providers.

More information about the services that MDQ can provide are available on our website www.mdqlq.org.au




We're coming to Bundy!

Come and join on 20-22 October

MDQ's Case Management Officer Hannah and our CEO Helene are planning our next outreach visit to Bundaberg on 20-22 October.

The NDIS is starting its rollout in Bundaberg on 1 October 2017 and Helene will present an NDIS workshop to keep you up to date with all the latest NDIS developments. Hannah will be available for individual case management and we hope you will join us for a social meal together. Please contact Hannah hannahs@mdqld.org.au if you are interested in coming.



Family Days

Bring the kids and meet other families at MDQs Family Days

MDQ is in the process of organising 2 new Family Days - one south of the city at Ormeau on 8th October, and another on the north side at Stafford on 6th November.

This will be an opportunity for you to meet other families in your neighbourhood who may be facing similar experiences. You can meet our Case Management Officers and find out about what supports are available in your area. There will be a special guest speaker at each event, some entertainment for the kids and some yummy food.

More information will follow once all the details have been locked in. We hope you will come along and have a fun time!

To register your interest in attending, please contact your Case Management Officer or email info@mdqld.org.au

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Most mainstream insurers depreciate the value of conversions at the same rate as your car which could leave you exposed to significant costs if you need to make a claim.

Blue Badge is Australia's first independence and mobility insurance specialist and offers to insure your conversions for the replacement value, rather than the depreciated value, so you can rest assured that you are fully covered.

For more information please contact Blue Badge Community Australia.
www.bluebadgecommunity.com.au/blue-badge-insurance/



Membership

Become a member of MDQ for 2016-17

Have you ever considered becoming a financial member of MDQ? Membership for the 2016-17 financial year is open now and costs \$22.00 (including GST) per family.

Membership is not a requirement to being a client of MDQ but if you would like to be more involved in our organisation and have a say in shaping our future, then please consider taking out membership.

Members have the opportunity to vote at our AGM will be held at the Toombul Shire Hall on 8th November 2016. More information about becoming a member (including a membership application) can be found on our website www.mdqld.org.au

Have you or your family and friends considered joining our Art Union?

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Ride for Muscular Dystrophy

Cairns rides for muscular dystrophy

Cycling enthusiasts once again took on our annual Ride for Muscular Dystrophy. The 100km ride takes place in Cairns each year and this year the riders were joined by some enthusiastic walkers who decided to take on a 20km walk instead!

Thank you so much to everyone who participated and helped us to raise awareness of muscular dystrophy and nearly \$10,000 to support our community! Special thanks go to Chris Wiles for all the planning and hard work that he puts into this event, the Lions Club of Cairns for feeding everyone and the Coral Coast Riders for keeping all of our cyclists safe on the day. Also a big thank you to all of the local businesses who kindly donated raffle prizes.





World Duchenne Awareness Day

Paint Queensland red in support of Duchenne Awareness

Buildings and landmarks from all around the world were lit in red on 7th September to celebrate World Duchenne Awareness Day. Around Australia, a huge range of buildings, councils, businesses and supporters joined in to paint Australia red and raise awareness of Duchenne muscular dystrophy.

Queensland icons involved:

Town Hall & King George Square, Brisbane

Skypoint Hotel, Gold Coast

The Reef Casino Hotel, Cairns

The Civic Centre, Ipswich

Studio 188, Ipswich

The Strand Fountain, Townsville

Toowoomba Town Hall

Council Chambers, Gladstone

Bencke Park Fountain, Rockhampton

MECC Precinct and Fountain, Mackay



Our ambassador in the north, Deb Robins has put in a lot of time and effort into promoting Duchenne Awareness Day and we thank her sincerely for her commitment.

